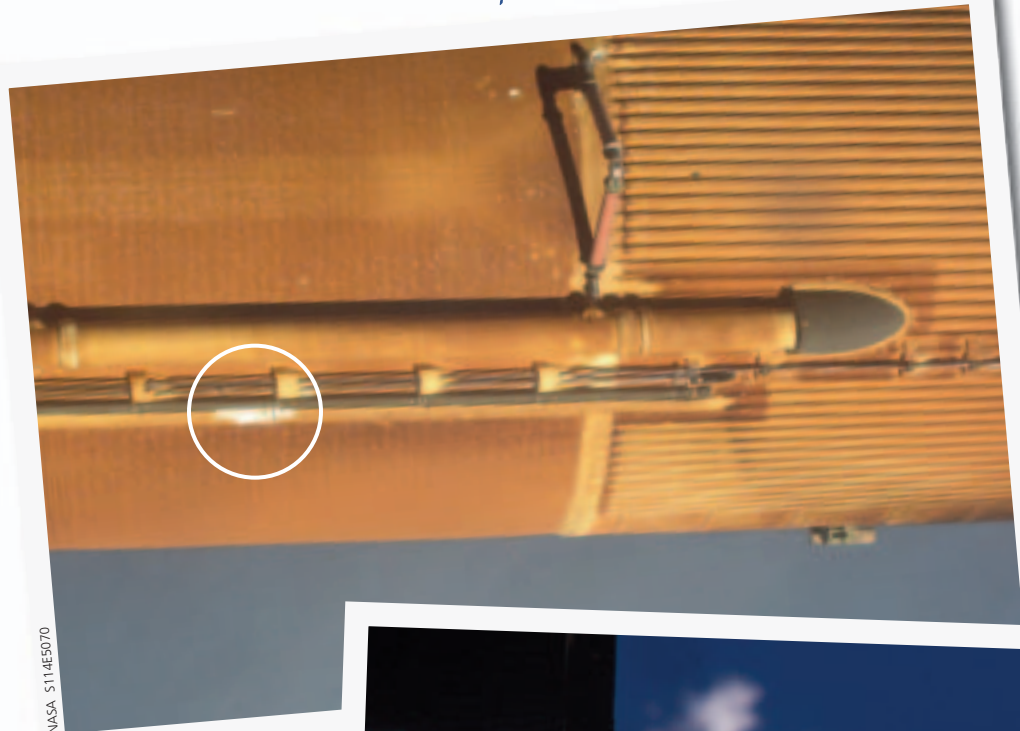


The mission in photos



This digital umbilical well image was taken after Discovery separated from its external fuel tank following launch on July 26. Initial analysis showed a large piece of foam that separated from the tank during the Shuttle's ascent. The foam detached from an area of the tank called the Protuberance Air Load Ramp. The television view indicated the debris did not impact Discovery. In this still image, the area of missing foam (circled at left) on the tank is indicated by a light spot centered just below the liquid oxygen feedline.

View of the Space Shuttle Discovery's crew cabin and the Orbiter Docking System, photographed as part of the survey sequence performed by the Expedition 11 crew during the STS-114 R-Bar Pitch Maneuver on Flight Day 3. A raised area of thermal blanket material (circled at right) can be seen just below a window on the commander's (port) side of the cabin.



Space Shuttle Discovery was about 600 feet from the International Space Station when Cosmonaut Sergei K. Krikalev, Expedition 11 commander, and Astronaut John Phillips, NASA Space Station science officer and flight engineer, photographed the spacecraft as it approached the Station and performed a backflip to allow photography of its heat shield. Astronaut Eileen Collins, STS-114 commander, guided the Shuttle through the flip. The Italian-built Raffaello Multi-Purpose Logistics Module is visible in the cargo bay.



One of the STS-114 crew members holds a piece of the gap filler material (inset), which had been protruding from between Thermal Protection

System tiles and which was retrieved during the third spacewalk of the flight by Mission Specialist Steve Robinson. Robinson (above) used his gloved fingers to pull out this gap filler and another one from Discovery's belly while carefully supported and maneuvered by the Canadian-built remote manipulator system, operated inside Discovery's cabin by astronauts Wendy Lawrence and Jim Kelly.



...I believe that we're a nation of explorers and immigrants...

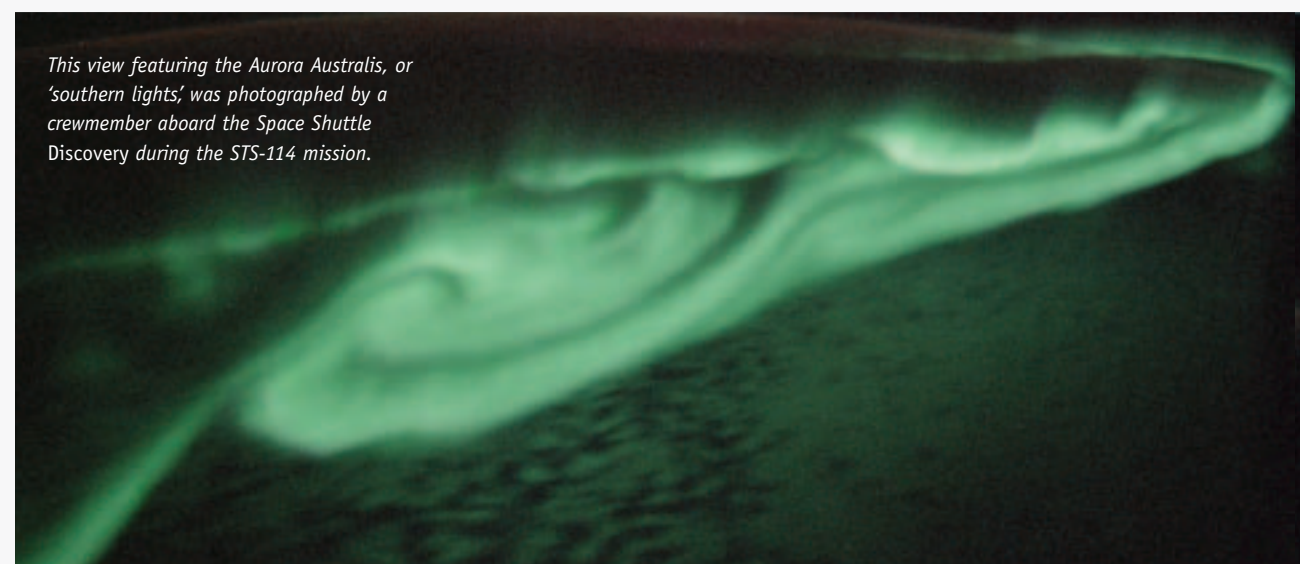
We are the kind of people who want to go out and learn new things and...take risks...

...calculated risks that are studied and understood. And I want to be part of that...



Astronaut Steve Robinson (left) and Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) Astronaut Soichi Noguchi, both STS-114 mission specialists, work in the Space Shuttle Discovery's cargo bay during the mission's first session of extravehicular activity while the Shuttle was docked to the International Space Station.

NASA S114E7219



This view featuring the Aurora Australis, or 'southern lights', was photographed by a crewmember aboard the Space Shuttle Discovery during the STS-114 mission.

NASA STS114-332-031

...because I think the benefits that we get from that...are very much worth the efforts.

STS-114 Commander Eileen Collins



NASA S114E7219

Backdropped against a colorful part of Earth, this full view of the International Space Station was photographed by a crewmember onboard the Space Shuttle Discovery following the undocking of the two spacecraft. Discovery pulled away from the complex at 2:24 a.m. CDT on Aug. 6. Background area includes upper part of the Caspian Sea. The dark area on the lower right (near the Soyuz) is the Volga Delta.

The STS-114 crewmembers gather for a crew photo in front of the Space Shuttle Discovery following landing at Edwards Air Force Base in California. From the left are astronauts Steve Robinson, mission specialist; Eileen Collins, commander; Andy Thomas, Wendy Lawrence, Soichi Noguchi representing Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency, Charlie Camarda, all mission specialists; and Jim Kelly, pilot.



NASA STS114-S-045



NASA EC05-0166-37

The Space Shuttle Discovery hitched a ride on a special 747 carrier aircraft for the flight from California to the Kennedy Space Center, Fla., on Aug. 19.